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Susan Strickland
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Attorney Docket No.: 01057

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Blanton et al.	Group:	Unassigned
Serial No.:	10/695,030	Examiner:	Unassigned
Filed:	October 28, 2003	Customer No.:	35467
For:	COMPACT, INTEGRATED SYSTEM FOR PROCESSING TEST SAMPLES		

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

In order to fulfill the requirements of candor and good faith set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants submit this Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

U.S. PATENT REFERENCES

<u>Patent No.:</u>	<u>Inventor(s):</u>	<u>Issue Date:</u>
4,118,280	Charles et al.	Oct. 3, 1978
3,963,355	Aldridge, Jr. et al.	June 15, 1976
4,116,775	Charles et al.	Sept. 26, 1978
4,038,151	Fadler et al.	July 26, 1977
D382,647	Staples et al.	Aug. 19, 1997
D414,272	O'Bear et al.	Sept. 21, 1999

<u>Patent No.:</u>	<u>Inventor(s):</u>	<u>Issue Date:</u>
5,609,828	O'Bear et al.	Mar. 11, 1997
5,746,980	O'Bear et al.	May 5, 1998
5,766,553	Staples et al.	June 16, 1998
5,843,380	Staples et al.	Dec. 1, 1998
5,869,005	O'Bear et al.	Feb. 9, 1999
5,916,812	Chen et al.	June 29, 1999
5,932,177	O'Bear et al.	Aug. 3, 1999
5,951,952	O'Bear et al.	Sept. 14, 1999
5,925,884	Robinson et al.	July 20, 1999
6,156,565	Maes et al.	Dec. 5, 2000
5,965,090	Fanning et al.	Oct. 12, 1999
6,045,758	Staples et al.	Apr. 4, 2000
5,762,873	Fanning et al.	June 9, 1998
6,086,824	Fanning et al.	July 11, 2000
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5,762,874	Seaton et al.	June 9, 1998
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5,798,084	Seaton et al.	Aug. 25, 1998
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5,897,835	Seaton et al.	Apr. 27, 1999
5,798,085	Seaton et al.	Aug. 25, 1998
5,853,666	Seaton et al.	Dec. 29, 1998
5,888,455	Seaton et al.	Mar. 30, 1999
5,891,396	Karl et al.	Apr. 6, 1999
5,869,006	Fanning et al.	Feb. 9, 1999
5,670,375	Seaton et al.	Sept. 23, 1997
6,309,890	Tegeler et al.	Oct. 30, 2001
5,804,437	Tegeler et al.	Sept. 8, 1998
6,024,921	Freiner et al.	Feb. 15, 2000
6,136,270	Maes et al.	Oct. 24, 2000

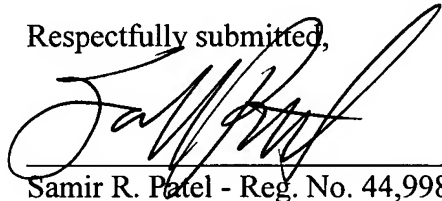
Copies of the above-listed references are enclosed herewith.

The above-listed references are also listed in Form PTO-1449 which is also enclosed
herewith.

This submission is not an admission that the information disclosed in the references is material to the patentability of the invention disclosed and/or claimed in the above-identified application. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in all respects in condition for examination on the merits.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection herewith to Deposit Account No. 50-0364.

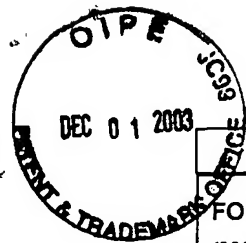
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Samir R. Patel', is written over a horizontal line.

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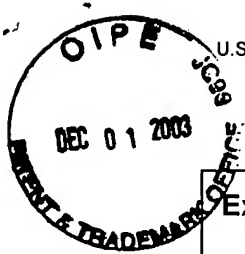
Enclosures: PTO-1449 w/ 36 references



FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (MODIFIED) U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (37 CFR 1.98(b))	ATTY. DOCKET NO.	SER. NO.
	01057	10/695,030
	Applicant: BLANTON t al.	
	FILING DATE October 28, 2003	GROUP Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Cite No. ¹	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class/ Subclass	Filing Date
		4,118,280	10/03/1978	Charles et al.		05/03/1976
		3,963,355	06/15/1976	Aldridge Jr. et al.		04/16/1974
		4,116,775	09/26/1978	Charles et al.		05/03/1976
		4,038,151	07/26/1977	Fadler et al.		07/26/1977
		D382,647	08/19/1997	Staples et al.		01/17/1996
		D414,272	09/21/1999	O'Bear et al.		07/06/1994
		5,609,828	03/11/1997	O'Bear et al.		05/31/1995
		5,746,980	05/05/1998	O'Bear et al.		05/05/1996
		5,766,553	06/16/1998	Staples et al.		01/17/1996
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		5,932,177	08/03/1999	O'Bear et al.		06/11/1997
		5,951,952	09/14/1999	O'Bear et al.		06/11/1997
		5,925,884	07/20/1999	Robinson et al.		02/12/1997
		6,156,565	12/05/2000	Maes et al.		08/04/1997
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		5,762,873	06/09/1998	Fanning et al.		02/21/1996
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		5,736,102	04/07/1998	Seaton et al.		02/21/1996
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		5,798,182	08/25/1998	LeFebvre et al.		07/12/1996
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		6,309,890	10/30/2001	Tegeler et al.		10/30/2001
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		6,024,921	02/15/2000	Freiner et al.		08/25/1998
		6,136,270	12/24/2000	Maes et al.		04/26/1999



FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class/ Subclass	Translation Yes/No
_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____					

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Relevant Pages, Place of Publication)

Examiner Initial	Cite No. ¹	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.